

**In the Specification**

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 6, as follows:

**-- RELATED APPLICATIONS**

This application is a continuation of U.S. application Serial No. 09/836,077, filed April 16, 2001, which is a continuation of U.S. application Serial No. 09/112,904, filed July 9, 1998, which claims priority to German Application Nos. 19729211.9 and 19805371.1, filed July 9, 1997 and February 11, 1998, respectively, each incorporated herein by reference. --

Please amend the heading at page 6, line 25, as follows:

**-- BRIEF DECEPTION DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS --**

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 7, as follows:

-- A possible signal peptide cleavage site is located between amino acids 44 and 45 (Table 3; calculated with SignalP (<http://www.cbs.dtu.dk/services/Signal-P>), a program based on neural networks for analyzing signal sequences {Nielsen H. et. al. (1997) Protein Engineering 10:1-6}). This gives for the processed protein (without signal peptide) a molecular weight (MW) of 70.3 kd (70323 dalton) and an isoelectric point of pH=7.01. --

Immediately after page 90 and before the first page of claims (page 91), please insert the enclosed pages identified as "Sequence Listing".